

Mobile-Satellite Service and 2 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service that are voluntarily installed on a U.S. ship or are used to comply with any statute or regulatory equipment carriage requirements may also be subject to the requirements of sections 321(b) and 359 of the Communications Act of 1934. Licensees are advised that these provisions give priority to radio communications or signals relating to ships in distress and prohibits a charge for the transmission of maritime distress calls and related traffic.

(2) Licensees offering distress and safety services should coordinate with the appropriate search and rescue organizations responsible for the licensee's service area.

(g) *Considerations involving transfer or assignment applications.* (1) "Trafficking" in bare licenses issued pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section is prohibited, except with respect to licenses obtained through a competitive bidding procedure.

(2) The Commission will review a proposed transaction to determine if the circumstances indicate trafficking in licenses whenever applications (except those involving *pro forma* assignment or transfer of control) for consent to assignment of a license, or for transfer of control of a licensee, involve facilities licensed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of an affirmative, factual showing (supported by affidavits of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that no trafficking has occurred.

(3) If a proposed transfer of radio facilities is incidental to a sale of other facilities or merger of interests, any showing requested under paragraph (g)(2) of this section shall include an additional exhibit which:

- (i) Discloses complete details as to the sale of facilities or merger of interests;
- (ii) Segregates clearly by an itemized accounting, the amount of consideration involved in the sale of facilities or merger of interest; and
- (iii) Demonstrates that the amount of consideration assignable to the facilities or business interests involved

represents their fair market value at the time of the transaction.

(h) *Prohibition of certain agreements.* No license shall be granted to any applicant for a space station in the mobile satellite service operating at 1610–1626.5/2483.5–2500 MHz if that applicant, or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the applicant, shall acquire or enjoy any right, for the purpose of handling traffic to or from the United States, its territories or possession, to construct or operate space segment or earth stations, or to interchange traffic, which is denied to any other United States company by reason of any concession, contract, understanding, or working arrangement to which the Licensee or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the Licensee are parties.

[59 FR 53328, Oct. 21, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 9945, Mar. 12, 1996; 62 FR 5930, Feb. 10, 1997; 65 FR 59143, Oct. 4, 2000]

§ 25.144 Licensing provisions for the 2.3 GHz satellite digital audio radio service.

(a) Qualification Requirements:

(1) Satellite CD Radio, Primosphere Limited Partnership, Digital Satellite Broadcasting Corporation, and American Mobile Radio Corporation are the applicants eligible for licensing in the satellite digital audio radio service.

(2) General Requirements: Each application for a system authorization in the satellite digital audio radio service in the 2310–2360 MHz band shall describe in detail the proposed satellite digital audio radio system, setting forth all pertinent technical and operational aspects of the system, and the technical, legal, and financial qualifications of the applicant. In particular, applicants must file information demonstrating compliance with § 25.114 and all of the requirements of this section.

(3) Technical Qualifications: In addition to the information specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, each applicant shall:

- (i) Demonstrate that its system will, at a minimum, service the 48 contiguous states of the United States (full CONUS);
- (ii) Certify that its satellite DARS system includes a receiver that will

permit end users to access all licensed satellite DARS systems that are operational or under construction; and

(iii) Identify the compression rate it will use to transmit audio programming. If applicable, the applicant shall identify the compression rate it will use to transmit services that are ancillary to satellite DARS.

(b) *Milestone Requirements.* Each applicant for system authorization in the satellite digital audio radio service must demonstrate within 10 days after a required implementation milestone as specified in the system authorization, and on the basis of the documentation contained in its application, certify to the Commission by affidavit that the milestone has been met or notify the Commission by letter that it has not been met. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of additional information (supported by affidavit of a person or persons with knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that the milestone has been met. This showing shall include all information described in § 25.140 (c), (d) and (e). The satellite DARS milestones are as follows, based on the date of authorization:

(1) One year: Complete contracting for construction of first space station or begin space station construction;

(2) Two years: If applied for, complete contracting for construction of second space station or begin second space station construction;

(3) Four years: In orbit operation of at least one space station; and

(4) Six years: Full operation of the satellite system.

(c) *Reporting requirements.* All licensees of satellite digital audio radio service systems shall, on June 30 of each year, file a report with the International Bureau and the Commission's Laurel, Maryland field office containing the following information:

(1) Status of space station construction and anticipated launch date, including any major problems or delay encountered;

(2) A listing of any non-scheduled space station outages for more than thirty minutes and the cause(s) of such outages; and

(3) Identification of any space station(s) not available for service or otherwise

not performing to specifications, the cause(s) of these difficulties, and the date any space station was taken out of service or the malfunction identified.

(d) The license term for each digital audio radio service satellite shall commence when the satellite is launched and put into operation and the term will run for eight years.

[62 FR 11105, Mar. 11, 1997]

§ 25.145 Licensing conditions for the Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.

(a) Except as provided in § 25.210(b), in general all rules contained in this part apply to Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.

(b) *System License.* Applicants authorized to construct and launch a system of technically identical non-geostationary satellite orbit satellites will be awarded a single “blanket” license covering a specified number of space stations to operate in a specified number of orbital planes.

(c) In addition to providing the information specified in § 25.114, each non-geostationary satellite orbit applicant shall demonstrate the following:

(1) That the proposed system be capable of providing fixed-satellite services to all locations as far north as 70 deg. latitude and as far south as 55 deg. latitude for at least 75% of every 24-hour period; and

(2) That the proposed system is capable of providing fixed-satellite services on a continuous basis throughout the fifty states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S.

(d) *Considerations involving transfer or assignment applications.* (1) “Trafficking” in bare licenses is prohibited, except with respect to licenses obtained through a competitive bidding procedure.

(2) The Commission will review a proposed transaction to determine if the circumstances indicate trafficking in licenses whenever applications (except those involving *pro forma* assignment or transfer of control) for consent to assignment of a license, or for transfer of control of a licensee, involve facilities licensed for the Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.